



Niall!

Volunteering for EHM!

Volunteering is a word that is often circulated in times of financial struggle. Volunteering is associated with experience used to secure gainful employment. However, a small volunteering organization in Ballycastle believes that volunteering is about serving the community and being creative, rather than simply something to include in your CV.

Experimental Home Media, is the organization which has decided to restore the perceived true meaning of volunteering. They are a home-based media production company. They produce audio, video, and textual media on a weekly basis. All content, although overseen by an editor, is largely left up to the individual volunteer.

The organization's representative Christopher Divine said that it is a "bit of creative fun" with the emphasis being on the individual's personal and creative development. He said that EHM is very proud of the variation and unique character of each show that is broadcast on the network. However, he explained that recruiting volunteers to produce shows is difficult. In order to understand why people were not motivated to join, he reflected on the reasons that made him consider a volunteering position:

"I've always had a little interest in this area of media and I was curious to learn about editing. I listen to radio most days and I always wondered how hard it could actually be. Now I know it is actually very challenging! The biggest challenge is trying to think of things to say. Every week I am looking for topics and wondering how I could talk about them. After that is the difficulty of finding the time to write, record and edit. I'm a 'housewife' and trying to find a quiet thirty minutes here and there is nearly impossible with two lunatic boys running around trying to wreck themselves!"

Other EHM volunteers have cited similar interests in the media, music, technology, editing or simply a desire to have a voice. They have all claimed that personal fulfillment is the true reason for committing to a non-profit organization. Volunteer Orrin Burns said:

"It's fun, interesting, a chance to be creative. It's something

everywhere really needs, a place where everyone can come to share ideas, express themselves, and express their own unique perspectives, to spread the views of interesting people in the community."

This attitude to volunteering is centered on an ideal which considers the local community as desiring a strong and independent voice for each of its participants and indeed that each individual wants to participate. However, there is contention among the members whether this idea is reflected in reality. Mr. Divine said:

"I get very little feedback, I don't know who is listening to what I'm doing which makes it hard to know if I'm doing okay or if I need to work on certain things... I'm hoping feedback will find its way to me soon!"

Although there are some serious doubts about the status of community involvement with the project, the team remains confident that it is early days and that participation will develop as the network's reputation grows among the local community. Although, EHM secretary Jessica Colman says there is already substantial reason to believe the show is widely listened to:

"Since moving our network onto a HTML embed system last month we have been able to track the number of unique hits on our page. We have had over one thousand hits so far spread over three shows. Each show has had a constant trend of increase suggesting an increasing and regular audience. Also, our Facebook page hits have increased 300% weekly for the past five weeks, which is incredible!"

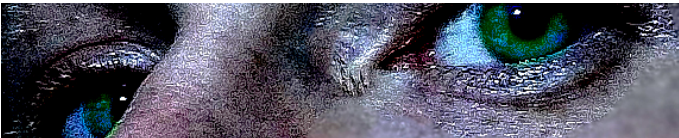
Optimistic statistics or not, the central motivation for EHM volunteers is one of self and community improvement. Mr. Divine said:

"The biggest thrill I get from this is the evening before my podcast goes out... each podcast is like a little precious egg to me that I'm laying on the interweb and it's always a good feeling to see the numbers of listeners begin to hatch. The goal of this whole project is to eventually have a radio station for Ballycastle...I would love to see more folks climb on board this project...we could literally change our little town forever."



EXPERIMENTAL
HOME MEDIA

WE
WANT YOU!



ORRIN!

Warm Welcomes!

Welcome to Experimental Home Media, I'm Orrin and I have my own show, named after me! My aim is to provide a place for people to express themselves in unusual ways.

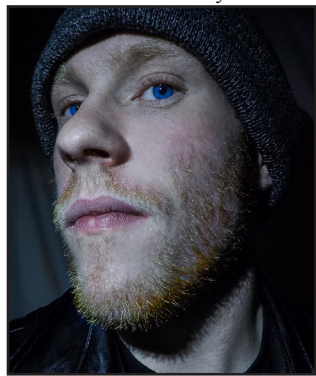
This idea is carried on in the songs I have chosen for my show. I want to head away from the songs that are repetitively played on the radio and introduce you to artists who may be considered more obscure. I want you to have a new musical experience!

My ultimate aim is to cater for artists who simply live for their art. I prefer to host songs which were not made for profit because art is for art's sake, and how exactly can one sell that?

I wish to bring to Northern Ireland an alternative side to music radio and encourage listeners to engage with new musical ideas and not just accept the

regurgitated music provided by mainstream radio.

Experimental Home Media is an organization which wishes to help and benefit the local community. This can only be carried out with the help of the local community. This is a rare opportunity for your voice and tastes to be available for the listening audience. We welcome diversity because we want to express our unique local culture in new and untried ways.



Insist on Sustainability!

Sustainability has become a household term. But what is it? It is a system which is beneficial and not detrimental. An example of a sustainability issue could be over grazing sheep fields. This causes growth failures.

But beyond such sheepish problems lie fossil fuels. This has a net negative energy rating. This is because it costs energy to extract and process the raw materials, so it costs energy to generate energy...madness! The oil economy requires more energy to be input into it than the oil itself gives back. Think of all the oil used to fuel drills and trucks for, you guessed it, oil extraction! Oil is heading into a sink-hole which with increasing prices and the decreasing rate of new sources being discovered.

So, oil will run out!

What then? How will we drive, or fly? How would we make our plastics? Of course, as supply goes down, demand goes up...way up!

85 million barrels of oil a day is being guzzled and as that number increases, it is costing more energy to generate it! Even oil with its high potential energy cannot win this race! In fact if we brought the world up to the same living standard as the USA,

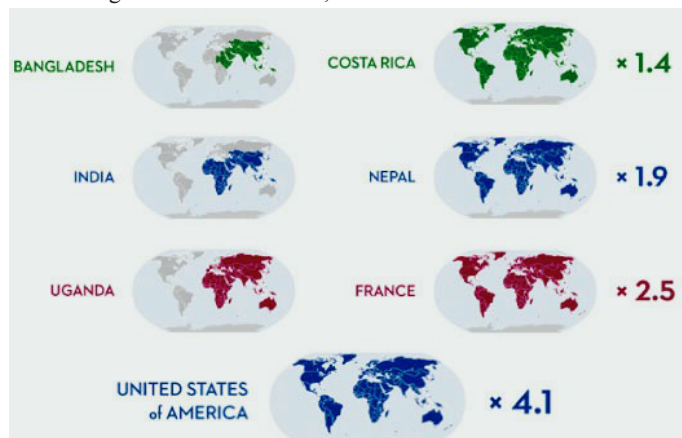
it would take 4.1 earth's worth of oil to power it! Of course, in reality, we don't have an unlimited amount of planets to replace the one we just ruined!

Don't buy all the propaganda that 'rising economies' in Asia need the fuel. This model is not sustainable, end of story! But, if that wasn't enough, things were slightly better before the industrial revolution, because quite frankly, there were less people! Now we have a booming population but the same amount of oil. You do the maths!

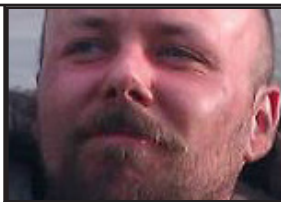
If this continues we will have no transport, no food but lots of poverty, war and insecurity. Sounds great doesn't it?

Oh but if that wasn't enough, when people flee their ailing cities, they will go to the countryside and overburden the agricultural sector, and bring that crashing down too! The added weight of so many mouths to feed could cause environmental disaster crippling the land for many. Many years.

So hear me humankind, you have written your own death knell. So change your ways, turn to nature to provide before this nightmare becomes reality and you starve with this planet. Boycott fossil fuels. Go green!



*It takes 4.1 earths to fuel
the future of oil!*



Chris!



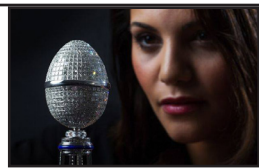
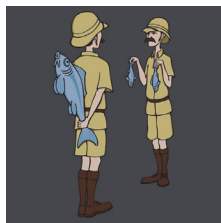
Slappa My Face!!!

Ever been hit in the head with a fresh wet fish? Me neither, but I've always wanted to inflict an individual, any individual, with this form of attack. I've had this unquenched thirst since being a child in the 80's whilst watching those Monty Python boys perform it as a sketch during their popular, but mostly weird, Monty Pythons Flying Circus. I spent some time as a fisherman and oddly I never took advantage of this readily available opportunity, mostly because if any of the chaps I worked with were given permission to strike me with a fish, they would most certainly have knocked my head into high orbit and if I were to fish slap any of them, they would have knocked my head into high orbit.

So, I wondered, how many of you fine folk fancied fish slapping my faulty face? Maybe you are aware already, but a

few of us Experimental Home Media volunteers have decided to exit a flying and perfectly functioning plane to try and raise some monies for a local and very deserving cause that supports an often marginalised and over looked group of people within our society to take part in projects they would never get the chance to experience if it wasn't for the hard work and dedication of those we plan to raise funds for.

Anyway, I am offering a chance of a life time, how would you like to slap my chops with a fish? It would cost you though. This money would entirely go to the cause we are hoping to raise money for, so for you it would be a win-win; Blow off some steam, fish slap my face, help an important and local cause!



£5 mil Easter Egg Up for Grabs!

Here is an Easter story for all you boys and girls. I for one will stick to the fine tradition of accepting fluffy bunny rabbits who lay chocolate eggs for us all to enjoy. Would you prefer this little egg for Easter? The world's most expensive egg has been unveiled in time for Easter but the owner wants several million to part with it. The Mirage egg looks like a cross between a Faberge egg and the Damien Hurst skull. The ornament has more than 1,000 diamonds on the outside 'shell' - worth £1.5million alone - 100 of which are a unique cut. And the diamond-covered egg, created by Manfred Wild, opens up to reveal an ornate globe which was hand-crafted in 18 karat gold. Vashi Dominguez,

jeweller to the stars and the diamond entrepreneur behind engagement ring selling website, has access to the private owner of this masterpiece, a mystery collector. It was not going to be sold, but Mr Dominguez is working on persuading the anonymous owner to sell it. The egg's private owner had no intention of selling but Mr Dominguez believes if anyone did make an offer in the "multiple millions" they might be able to strike a deal. He said: "Mirage is, quite simply, one of the finest jewels ever created. "The owner has said he has no intention of selling the wondrous piece, but if someone really wants it I can see if we can come to an agreement."

No Fracking Diaries Issue 1!

Fracking is another fossil fuel industry that pollutes, poisons and destroys. This threatens ours and our children's existence!

It is said that we as a life form are a blink in the eye of the universe, so the damage caused by fossil fuels in that time is immense!. It is obvious global warming is real, and the best scientists say it is man made. People are already affected.

Are we so dumb as to poison ourselves? To my knowledge there is no other life form that seeks to end its own existence! In this sense we are truly alone.

Fracking is a process that uses extreme pressure to fracture rock at deep levels 2 miles or more underground. Their casings are not strength tested until a leakage occurs!

The few proponents of Fracking merely serve their own interest. Examples of contaminated lands and dead animals, along with many a peer reviewed research paper are telling you that the process is inherently dangerous! Think about this, do you really trust oil & gas companies or politicians? They say its fine. It is our fault if the worst happens! Our vote, our voice, our actions all contribute. Why are so many people afraid of clean and infinite energy that the winds, oceans and sun light offer?

Fossil fuel time is over! There are many workable alternatives! So go and find out if you don't believe me!

A great man once said "Be the change you want to see in the world".